

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Speidel "Change a Band, Change a LifeTM" Month

WHEREAS, millions of brave Americans, including many Rhode Islanders, have demonstrated their courage and commitment to our country and to freedom around the world by serving in our nation's armed forces in Active, Guard and Reserve duty; and

WHEREAS, during these challenging economic times far too many of our service members, wounded warriors and their families are experiencing financial hardship; and

WHEREAS, Operation Homefront, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was formed in February of 2002 to provide emergency assistance and morale assistance for our troops, for the families they leave behind, and for wounded warriors when they return home; and

WHEREAS, Operation Homefront has met over 400,000 needs for military families, including active duty, Guard and Reserve from all branches of service, providing more than \$128 million dollars of support to those who have sacrificed so much for our country; and

WHEREAS, Vintage American company Speidel, based in Rhode Island since its founding in 1904 and recognized as the number one brand in the world of watchbands and identification bracelets has partnered with Operation Homefront; and

WHEREAS, Speidel's "Change a Band, Change a LifeTM" corporate giving program supports, honors, and strives to meet the needs of current and former members of the U.S. Military and their families by donating a portion of all proceeds of any Speidel product sold nationwide to Operation Homefront during 2013; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim January, 2013 as Speidel "Change a Band, Change a LifeTM" Month in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.

seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 4th day of January, 2013

Given under my hand and the great

Lincoln D. Chafee

A. Ralph Mollis

Secretary of State